

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 13, and 25-50 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8, 9, 31, 38 and 44 being the independent claims. Applicants have cancelled claim 10.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Supplemental Amendment and Reply be entered after final rejection as it places the claims in condition for allowance. 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Based on the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Advisory Action

In the Advisory Action dated February 27, 2007, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 3-9, 13 and 25-50 were allowable and that the proposed amendments to the claims, filed December 6, 2006, will be entered for purposes of appeal. However, the Examiner indicated that claim 10 is not in condition for allowance.

The Examiner also requested a copy of the telephonic interview conducted on December 4, 2006. Applicants enclose herewith a copy of the interview summary for the Examiner.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph (written description)

In the Final Office Action and Advisory Action, the Examiner maintains that claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of written

description and is not in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Solely to advance allowance of this application and not in acquiescence to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have cancelled claim 10. Accordingly, the rejection is now moot.

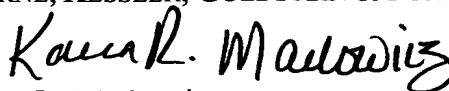
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned directly at (202) 772-8637.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Karen R. Markowicz
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 36,351

Date: 3/6/07
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600